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After September 1944, the following 110-kilovolt transmission lines were built: Kurilo-Mezdra, Cherven Bryag-Pleven-Levski-Gorna Oryakhovitsa, Kurilo-Plovdiv, and Dimitrovgrad-Kurdzhali-Konski dol. The following transmission lines are now under construction: Dimitrovgrad-Burgas and Mezdra-Vidin. Large substations have been built in Kurilo, Mezura, and Cherven Bryag.

The Batak-Debrashtitsa "Vodosilov put" (waterway), construction of which began at the beginning of this year, will have power stations 1.5 times more powerful than all the present-day hydroelectric power stations in Bulgaria. At the end of 1953, the construction of a dam on the Arda River will begin. This dam will be a part of the "Studen kladenets" Hydroelectric Power Network which will produce 200 million kilowatt-hours of power per year.

Plovdiv, Otechestven Glas, 11 Apr 53

Construction of a long-distance power line to the Beglishka river project has begun.

Digging is in progress on a 12-kilometer tunnel which will connect the "Vasil Kolarov" Dam with the underground "Batak" VETs (Hydroelectric Power Station).

On 2 April 1953, construction began on the underground "Batak" VETs, the first of its type in Bulgaria. It will supply five times more electric power than the "Vucha" VETs.

The Batak-Debrashtitsa "Vodosilov put" project is under the direction of Khristo Takev.

In succeeding years, three VETs will be included in the system of the "Vodosilov put." The broad Batak Plateau will be the bottom of the large new dam which will hold three times more water than the "Vasil Kolarov" Dam.

"RADOMIRTSI" VETs TO OPERATE PRIOR TO DEADLINE -- Pleven, Septemvriyska Pobeda, 21 Feb 53

The "Radomirtsi" VETs in Radomirtsi, Lukovit Okoliya, is beginning operation prior to the deadline. The VETs will produce 5 million kilowatt-hours of power per year. The 7-kilometer canal and the 6,000-cubic meter reservoir were also completed before the deadline. At the beginning of the winter of 1952-53, the USSR shipped to this VETs the first "Propeler" type vertical turbines to be used in Bulgaria. Two turbogenerator units have been installed; the third will be installed soon.

Stalin, Stalinsko Zname, 31 Jan 53

The "Radomirtsi" VETs is supervised by Engr Ivan Yonov.

"ASENITSA 2" VETs TO SATISFY ELECTRIC POWER NEED IN ASENNOVGRAD OKOLIYA -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 12 Apr 53

Asenovgrad, 11 April -- The "Asenitsa 2" VETs, the second VETs to be completed near the Chaya River, will produce the same amount of power as is now consumed in Asenovgrad Okoliya. Two of the turbine units have already been included in the general power network of the area. Dimitur Peykov is the director of the VETs.

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"KLISURA" VETs READY FOR OPERATION -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 14 Apr 53

Berkovitsa, 13 April -- Recently the two turbines, generators, and other machines of the "Klisura" VETs, near Klisura [now Burziya], Berkovitsa Okoliya, were tested and the VETs is now ready for operation.

"USTOVO" VETs TO BEGIN TEST OPERATION -- Sofia Rabotnichesko Delo, 16 Apr 53

Smolyan -- The "Ustovo" VETs near Smolyan is expected to begin test operations before 1 May 1953. Georgi Karapanov is the technical director in charge of building the VETs. A tunnel is being completed through which water will flow from the Byala River into the Cherna River, and finally into the VETs. The VETs was built with Soviet help.

"STARA ZAGORA" VETs UNDER CONSTRUCTION -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 18 Apr 53

Stara Zagora, 12 April -- The "Stara Zagora" VETs [probably in or near Stara Zagora] is under construction. The foundations of the VETs extend to a depth of 20 meters.

"VULKO CHERVENKOV" TETs PRODUCES 22 MILLION KILOWATT HOURS -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 29 Mar 53

According to Todor Mavrov, director of the "Vulko Chervenkov" TETs (Steam Heat and Electric Power Station) in Dimitrovgrad, the TETs produced over 22 million kilowatt-hours in 1952 and its capacity was increased 6.4 percent during its first year of operation.

"VASIL KOLAROV" DAM IRRIGATES 150,000 DECARES OF LAND -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 23 Nov 52

The summer of 1952 was the driest in many years. As early as July, the Maritsa River and its tributaries were either low or dried up. Therefore, the production of electric power was low.

At the request of the Plovdiv Okrug Committee of the Communist Party and the Executive Committee of the Okrug People's Council of Workers' Deputies, the Central Committee of the party and the government decided to release more water for irrigation purposes from the "Vasil Kolarov" Dam.

The water from the dam flowed at an initial rate of 6 cubic meters per second and increased to 9, thus filling the irrigation canals. The large pumping stations along the Maritsa River near Kostievo, Plovdiv, Cheshnegirovo, Manole, Belozem, Popovitsa, and the new Purvomay irrigation system worked at full capacity.

The water irrigated the fields around Krichim, Kurtovo, Konaro, Purvenets, Markovo, Kostievo, Radinovo, Skutare, Manole, Pogosh, Belozem, Sadovo, Cheshnegirovo, Popovitsa, and all the villages of the Purvomay irrigation system as far as Dimitrovgrad.

During the dry months of July, August, and September, the areas under irrigation in Krichim, Perushtitsa, and Plovdiv were fertile. The irrigated corn grew to 4 meters, yielding 3 to 4 cobs per stalk. Members of the Krichim, Perushtitsa, and Brestovitsa TKZS (cooperative labor farm) stated that they obtained at least 500 kilograms of grapes per decare.

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The members of the TKZS at Markovo dug a 3-kilometer irrigation canal from Purvenets to Markovo to irrigate vineyards and tobacco fields.

In the most critical period of the drought, June and August of this year, the "Vasil Kolarov" Dam delivered over 30 million cubic meters of water to 150,000 decares of land. About 20,000 decares of rice fields, 25,000 decares of vineyards, various orchards, vegetable gardens, strawberry fields, cotton fields, and other fields were saved from the drought; thus, high yields of these products were assured. About 12 million kilowatt-hours of electric power were generated by the water of the dam in 1951 and 1952; this electric power was worth about 240 million leva. These figures clearly show that in the first year of its operation, the "Vasil Kolarov" Dam has not only repaid but far exceeded the sums invested in its construction. -- Engr St. Mollov, Chief of the "Vodnostopanstvo" (Water Economy) Section of the Plovdiv Okrug People's Soviet

INFORMATION ON "STUDENA" AND "GEORGI DIMITROV" DAMS -- Sofia, Naruchnik na Agitatora, No 13, May 53

The "Studena" Dam is located above the village of Studena, Dimitrovo Okoliya, near the Vitosha Mountain. The dam wall is being built between the Opashnitsa and Buga mountain peaks, 7 kilometers from the spring of the Struma River. The artificial lake of the dam will gather 26 million cubic meters of water /cf. figure [ ] for the purpose of irrigating 1,700 decares of land.

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The dam will supply water to the steam boilers of the "Republika" TETs in Moshino, near Dimitrovo; to the pectin factory in Tsurkva, Dimitrovo Okoliya; to the "Dimitrovo" TETs, in the same okoliya; and to the "Lenin" State Metallurgical Plant in Dimitrovo.

The dam will begin operation in several days. The building of the 9-kilometer canal from the dam to the "Lenin" Plant is in its final stage. The dam wall is also in its final stage; it is 255 meters long on top, 50 meters high, and 60 meters at the bottom.

The technical director for mechanized work at the dam is 27-year-old Nikola Iliev. The dam wall is of the "N'oyts" type, which is sectional and hollow in the middle. This is the first dam of this type in Bulgaria and the fifth in the world. -- M. Benliev

Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 24 May 53

Engineer G. Georgiev is the director general of the "Georgi Dimitrov" Dam Complex, while the following are the chairmen of various section trade union committees at the site: P. Daskalov, Khr. Kamenarski, and Dim. Nesterov, whose groups are working on the wall, trunk canal, and tunnels, respectively; also Y. Petkov, whose group is working at the "Stara Zagora" VETs. N. Nerev is the organizer of the Central Committee of the DSNM at the dam complex, and St. Velez is the party organizer of the Central Committee of the BKP (Bulgarian Communist Party) at the dam complex.

SMALL DAMS IRRIGATE PRESILAV OKOLIYA -- Sofia, Vecherni Novini, 6 Aug 53

The 1953 plan for building small dams in Preslav Okoliya called for five dams, but the plan was exceeded and there are now six dams: in Imrenchevo, Alusiyan, Ivanovo, Metodievo, Nova Byala-reka, and Zlatar. Those in Imrenchevo,

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Ivanovo, and Metodievo have begun operating. The water is used to irrigate tobacco fields, strawberries, and vegetable gardens. The electric pumping station in Milanovo produces 300 liters of water per second, and irrigates the Krumovo and Preslav fields. A new pumping station has just been put into operation in Kirkovo. The irrigation plan in Preslav Okoliya has been fulfilled 100 percent.

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